

Fall 2017/18

Exchange Report - Lund University



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Bsc in Economics and Finance, Year 3

Monthly Activity Log

August:

I arrived in Copenhagen on the 15th of August. There were some students from Lund University to welcome you and bring you to buy train tickets to Lund. After arriving to Lund, you will be led to the international office to finish the check-in for the accommodation as well as getting some useful materials(e.g. Sim card, booklet about Lund and the university etc). After the registration day, our orientation weeks started. The 2 week orientation consists of different activities and tours around Lund, including a visit to IKEA, mentor group gathering, concert etc. I only went for the compulsory meeting from Business School because most of the activities were already sold out.

On 28/8, the semester started and I had two courses BUSO 94 Corporate Finance and NEKH 71 Economic Integration which are on Tuesday and Thursday.

During August, I have visited Frankfurt, Cologne, Dortmund, and places near Lund like Malmo, Helsingborg and so on. It was a great start for my exchange journey.



September:

There were not much Asian people in Lund, so in the project of Corporate Finance, I have formed a group with a Belgian guy and one of my friend. Even for foreigners, they came from different parts in Europe and they were super nice. Especially those in my Vastgota Nation, I remember some of my friends and I took part in a beer pong event as helpers, the committee of the Nation treated us so well and taught us to be bartenders making cocktails and even making pizza. I enjoyed the night and made friends with them. After staying in Lund for half a month, I started adapting to the slow-paced and biking culture in Lund. So I tried to cycle around the town to explore things I haven't known. Every day was so relaxing. Then I visited Copenhagen, Berlin, Vienna, Hallstatt, Prague, Cesky Krumlov in early and mid-September.



October:

Half of the term already passed and exams were coming soon. Apart from the preparation of the exams, I went to Madrid, London, and Stockholm to have some rest before the exam. The exam format there is similar to that in HKUST, but the only difference is the duration. For my finance and economic course, they both have five hours for the exam, but the length of the exam paper is similar to the one you have in HKUST, so it was relatively more relaxing and less nervous in Lund. After taking the exams, I have two weeks semester break, so I went to Manchester to watch the football game of my favorite team as well as visiting Munich.



November:

The semester break was still going on, so I have been to Belgium and Luxembourg to relax and get more rest in order to prepare for the next term. Although I only got one course in the second term, it brought me a heavier workload than the previous term as it is about archaeology, which I have completely no idea about this subject beforehand. In late November, I visited Oslo, Bristol, Birmingham and Bath. Christmas markets in different country started to appear and the decoration was really beautiful. The atmosphere in Europe was totally different from that in Hong Kong. But the temperature started dropping, so it was like at least 0-5 degree everywhere but still acceptable with a jacket. In my course of archaeology, it held a visit to Copenhagen National Museum as well as other historic sites, so I gained more knowledge on how the old Scandinavian culture be like and the evolution of the Scandinavia.



December:

After having examinations on early December, the semester ended on 12/12. And my journey in Lund has come to an end. Yet my travelling plan was still going on, before going back to Hong Kong, I spent my December in Paris, Finland, cruise trip from Helsinki, Milan, Florence. During the Christmas week in Inari, where is a small town in Finland. I have enjoyed a sky of aurora as well as different kinds of snow activities such as Husky experience, cross country skiing and so on. There is also the Santa Claus Village. Personally preferred Inari as a must-go place in your exchange journey.

**January:**

Before going back to Hong Kong, I spent most of the January in Rome, Venice, Pisa, Iceland where is also a must-go place for natural geographic, Manchester again for my team, Portugal and ended my trip in Amsterdam.



General Exchange Information:

Visa Procedures:

Residence permit to Sweden is necessary because you will be staying in Sweden more than 3 months, while you can get it in the Swedish Embassy in Hong Kong by applying online. The process is around a month, so do it as soon as possible once you receive your letter of acceptance.

Orientation Activities:

There is a two week orientation in Lund, while various activities will be held during those weeks. Most of them have to pay and optional. A visit to IKEA is recommended because you have to buy stuff for your hall like pillow or so.

International Services & Activities:

There is an international office in the AF building which always organize different activities for exchange students, so if you are bored in the town or want to meet some new friends, go there and have fun!

Accommodations:

I lived in a two-room apartment in Bautastenen with my friend who is from HKUST too. It is a bit far from the business school because it is a new hall so we have to bike for 15 minutes for school every day. But the environment there is comfortable and less crowded relatively, sometimes you can enjoy a wide sky full of stars. You can apply hall through Lund Accommodation or other authorized third party which the list of the authority will be provided by Lund University.

Course Registration:

I have registered for three courses, two in the first term while one in the second term. Courses I have taken is BUSO 94 Corporate Finance(SEM course), NEKH 71 Economic Integration(SEM course) and SASH 05 The Dawn in the European Culture(SAS course). You will have chances to apply for courses before your departure as well as on the welcome day of LUSEM(Lund University School of Economics and Management).

Teaching & Assessment Methods:

The teaching in Lund is more or less the same as those in HKUST, consisting of lectures, lab sessions and workshops. Attendance depends on courses while only the lab session in Corporate Finance and the workshops in the SAS course took attendance. Assessment is in the form of homework(BUSO 94 & NEKH 71), projects(BUSO 94) and final exam(BUSO 94 & NEKH 71) or essays(SASH 05).

Sports & Recreation Facilities:

As the campus is all around Lund, so there will be many sports facilities all around the town. The only one I used is the football field, but I am sure you can find the one you want in Lund.

Finance & Banking:

I only bring one credit card, one debit card and 10,000 SEK to Sweden.

Summary (In HKD):

Airline Tickets: \$7450

Accommodation: \$18500

Basic Expenses: \$20000

Travelling: \$60000

Social Clubs & Networking Opportunities:

You will choose the nation few days after your registration day. You can only choose one among them and you can enjoy their activities held every week or even days. But you can still join for the activities held by other nations but pay in a non-member fee. My nation is Vastgota Nation which held metro club, beer pong, lunch and tea and so on every week, so you don't have to worry about the social life there as there are activities every day.

Health & Safety:

It is quite safe in Lund as it is only a small town. So you will feel so free there and be able to enjoy a living in a small town. Clinic and hospital are also in the town, but I do not know about the pricing there.

Food:

There are both Chinese and Western restaurants in Lund, price ranging from 50SEK to 120SEK. Most of the time we buy food from supermarket and cook at night, so it would be cheaper.

Transportation:

Transportation in Lund mostly by bus, which is around 20 HKD per ride (I forgot the exact amount), it would be cheaper if you purchase the ticket on the mobile app. For regional train to different parts in Sweden or to Copenhagen, the price varies but still cheaper to buy on the mobile app or get a jojo card(a Swedish version of Octopus). For daily transportation around the town, you can also rent or buy a bike so it may be a lot cheaper than taking a ride on the bus. I have rent a new bike for 4 months and it costs me \$1300 HKD.

Climate:

From August till October, it would be quite warm, sometimes a t-shirt is able to handle the climate. But afterwards, the temperature starts dropping, but not as cold as in Hong Kong on the same temperature level as the climate in Sweden is drier than in Hong Kong. The lowest temperature there I experienced was around -2 degree Celsius. And of course snowing there in winter sometimes.

Communication:

People there can speak both Swedish and English well, so don't worry about communications.

Items to bring

- Router
- Laptop
- Adapter and extension cord
- Camera
- Waterproof clothing and shoes
- Letter of acceptance
- Medicine
- Cash/Credit card
- Rice cooker and HK food (optional but preferred)

Useful Links and Contacts

Notes: Most of the links related to housing, academics and student life will be provided by Lund University before your departure. But in case if you want to take a glance before it, you can take reference to the following links:

Lund University School of Economic and Management (LUSEM) Exchange Program Website

<https://www.lusem.lu.se/study/exchange>

Housing Application

<http://www.lunduniversity.lu.se/student-life/housing>

Resident Permit Application:

<https://www.migrationsverket.se/English/Private-individuals/Studying-in-Sweden.html>

LUSEM International Desk

Contact Email: incoming@ehl.lu.se

You can also contact me for more details regarding the exchange program or anything about me☺
Enjoy your exchange and Have FUN!

